

XXXI.—*On the Reptiles of Rotuma Island, Polynesia.*

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MR. J. STANLEY GARDINER has kindly entrusted to me the collection of Reptiles made by him on Rotuma, north of the Fiji Islands. Small as it is, the collection is of interest as affording information on an island the herpetological fauna of which had not been previously investigated, and in bringing to light a new species of Geckos, which I have much pleasure in naming in honour of its discoverer. Mr. Gardiner was assured by the natives that no other kinds of Lizards and Snakes exist on the island but those of which he secured specimens. Batrachians are absent.

The species are only eight in number, viz. seven Lizards and one Snake, and, with the exception of the new Gecko, are known to have a wide geographical distribution.

1. *Gehyra oceanica*, Less.

Known from the Moluccas, New Guinea, Admiralty Islands, Solomon Islands, Lord Howe Island, Fiji Islands, Tonga Islands, Samoa Islands, and Hervey Islands.

2. *Lepidodactylus lugubris*, D. & B.

Distributed from the Malay Peninsula and Archipelago to the Pelew Islands, New Guinea, Solomon Islands, New Hebrides, New Caledonia, Fiji Islands, and Tonga Islands.

3. *Lepidodactylus Gardineri*, sp. n.

Head small, oviform; snout once and one third the diameter of the orbit, which equals its distance from the ear-opening; forehead concave; ear-opening very small, oval, oblique. Body and limbs moderate. Digits moderate, inner well-developed; a very slight rudiment of web; 12 to 14 lamellæ under the median digits, 2 or 3 of the terminal ones divided. Scales uniformly granular, the granules larger on the snout, largest and flat on the belly. Rostral quadrangular, nearly twice as broad as deep, notched above mesially to receive an enlarged scale separating the nasals; nostril pierced between the rostral, the first labial, and three nasals; 11 upper and as many lower labials; each upper labial with a granular asperity or feebly raised vertical keel; three rows of very small chin-shields graduating into the granules on the throat. Tail cylindrical, tapering, covered with uniform small flat scales, which are larger on the lower

surface. Brown above, with indistinct darker bars across the body and tail; lower parts white, speckled with brown on the sides; throat greyish.

	millim.
Total length .....	80
Head.....	12
Width of head .....	7
Body .....	33
Fore limb .....	13
Hind limb .....	16
Tail (reproduced) .....	35

A single female specimen.

Nearest allied to *L. Guppyi*, Blgr., and *L. Woodfordii*, Blgr., from the Solomon Islands.

#### 4. *Lygosoma noctua*, Less.

Known from New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa Islands, Society Islands, Fiji Islands, Tonga Islands, and Sandwich Islands.

#### 5. *Lygosoma cyanurum*, Less.

Found in Celebes, the Moluccas, New Guinea, and nearly all the small islands of the South Pacific, with the exception of New Caledonia.

#### 6. *Lygosoma samoense*, A. Dum.

Inhabits the New Hebrides, Samoa Islands, Fiji Islands, and Tonga Islands.

#### 7. *Lygosoma nigrum*, Hombr. & Jacq.

Inhabits the Caroline Islands, New Ireland, Solomon Islands, Banks's Island, Samoa Islands, Fiji Islands, and Tonga Islands.

#### 8. *Enygrus australis*, Montrouzier.

This snake, which has long been confounded with *E. Bibronii*, Hombr. & Jacq., is known from New Britain, the Solomon Islands, the New Hebrides, Loyalty Islands, and Samoa Islands; whilst *E. Bibronii* is on record from San Christoval, and the Fiji and Tonga Islands.

The specimens, four in number, brought home by Mr. Gardiner, have 37 to 39 scales across the body, 235 to 240 ventrals, and 57 to 63 subcaudals.